# THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE
LIBRARY
NEW LONDON, CONN.

SPECIAL ISSUE:
YEAR IN REVIEW 1971

## SPRING 1972

# NEW LIFE MEMBERS

An individual becomes a Life Member of The Nature Conservancy upon contribution of $300 for membership dues. Patrons contributing $1,000 and Sponsors contributing $500 are also granted Life Membership as special distinction among Annual Members. The contribution is used in the following ways: (1) $300 is added to the Guarantee and Income Fund for the Conservancy's endowment; and (2) the amount of a contribution above $300 is placed in the General Fund to support the Conservancy's national operations.

## PATRONS ($1,000)

**Mrs. Peter H. Flint**
Delaware

**Mr. and Mrs. Harold S. Gladwin**
California

**Mr. Laurence Perrine**
Texas

**Mr. and Mrs. Reid W. Smith**
Washington

## SPONSORS ($500)

**Mrs. William Bowers**
New York

**Mrs. Clews Carpenter**
New York

## LIFE MEMBERS ($300)

**Mr. Frederick G. Acker**
Illinois

**Mrs. Paul Bolton**
Texas

**Mr. T. William Booth**
Washington

**Miss Helen P. Burns**
Massachusetts

**Mr. Ralph W. Carpenter**
Ohio

**Dr. George Chapouthier**
France

**Mr. Farnham F. Collins**
New York

**Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Edmunds**
Oregon

**Miss Edith F. Edward**
Michigan

**Mr. Oscar Geralds, Jr.**
Kentucky

**Mr. Charles Dana Gibson**
New York

**Dr. Frederick Goldman**
Ohio

**Mrs. Albert M. Greenfield**
Pennsylvania

**Mrs. Elaine Gurnett**
New York

**Mrs. Louise Mead Hands**
Illinois

**Mr. John R. Hoover**
Ohio

**Mr. John V. Hummel**
Wisconsin

**Mr. Stewart B. Knower**
Virginia

**Mrs. Lucy B. Lemann**
New York

**Mrs. Helen Martin**
California

**Mr. William E. Miller**
Wisconsin

**Mrs. John K. Notz**
Illinois

**Mr. R. C. Peterson**
New York

**Lt. Gen. K. E. Pletcher**
Nebraska

**Mrs. Marguerite W. Richards**
Maryland

**Mr. Samuel Ropchan**
Indiana

**Mr. Willis S. Slusser**
California

**Mrs. Ward C. Smith**
California

**Mrs. Louise G. Squibb**
California

**Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Starzel**
Colorado

**Mrs. Clara G. Valentine**
Massachusetts

**Mr. Herman V. Von Holt**
Hawaii

**Mr. Henry E. Wahl**
Indiana

**Mrs. John R. Weiss**
Illinois

**Mr. John R. Werger**
New Jersey

**Mr. John M. Woolsey, Jr.**
Massachusetts

**Mrs. Charles P. Yarn, Jr.**
Georgia

# NEW CORPORATE MEMBERS

## (ANNUAL $1,000 MINIMUM)

**Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States**
New York

**Northeast Utilities**
Connecticut

**Syntex Corporation**
California

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

Warren M. Lemmon, **Chairman;** Wallace C. Dayton, William E. Howard, George R. Cooley, **Vice Chairmen;** Richard S. Weinstein, **Secretary.**

Alexander B. Adams, John Archbold, Brandon Barringer, Mrs. Barry Bingham, Ernest Brooks, Jr., Charles Dow, H. P. J. Duberg, Richard H. Durrell, Sayard Ewing, Richard H. Goodwin, Alfred E. Heller, Estella B. Leopold, Rudolph O. Marcoux, Cyrus Mark, Mildred E. Mathias, Richard Gordon Miller, Lyle M. Nelson, Gordon K. Smith, Thornton Thomas, Mrs. Thomas M. Waller, Mrs. Charles P. Yarn, Jr.

**NATIONAL OFFICE**

ACTING PRESIDENT: Warren M. Lemmon

SCIENCE: Robert E. Jenkins, Vice President, **Director;** Edgar Garbisch, **Director, Center for Applied Research in Environmental Sciences.**

OPERATIONS: Patrick F. Noonan, Vice President, **Director;** David E. Morine, **Assistant Director;** Davis Cherington, **Preserve Management;** Richard G. Traurig, **Real Property Attorney;** Henry H. Stebbins, Jr., **Staff Assistant.**

DEVELOPMENT: Christopher S. Dann, Vice President, **Director;** Bradford C. Northrup, **Assistant Director;** William B. Carlin, **Associate Director;** Jack Lynn, **Public Relations;** Lynn Mohn, **Editor;** Josephine Johnson, **Membership Secretary.**

FINANCE: Robert Berner, Vice President, **Director;** Thomas J. Fitzgerald, **Controller;** Eileen Hulse, **Administration.**

**EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE**

Stephen L. Keiley, **Director;** Herbert Hiller, Farley Smith, Jr., **Representatives;** Clifford E. Emanuelson, **Director, Devil's Den Preserve.**

**MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICE**

Riesley R. Jones, **Director**

**MID-AMERICA/GULF REGIONAL OFFICE**

DeVere E. Burt, **Director**

**WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE**

Huey D. Johnson, **Director;** F. S. Foote, Jr., Richard W. Goodspeed, David Gray, G. Jon Roush, Bruce F. Wolfe, **Representatives;** Steven P. Steinhour, **Director, San Francisco Bay Project;** Joseph C. Peacock, **Director, Northern California Coast Range Preserve.**

Copyright 1972
The Nature Conservancy

# THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

**Published Quarterly by The Nature Conservancy**
**1800 North Kent Street**
**Arlington, Virginia 22209**
**LYNN MOHN, EDITOR**

**Volume 22, Number 2** **Spring 1972**

## SPECIAL ISSUE: YEAR IN REVIEW 1971

New Projects 4
*A review of projects begun in recent months*

Four Holes Swamp 6
*Largest and last surviving virgin blackwater cypress swamp purchased by the Conservancy and National Audubon Society*

Ecology Forum: TNC CARES 11

YEAR IN REVIEW 1971 12

Notes 22

**Cover Photo by Sam Sloan:** *American egret* / **Inside Cover Photo by Tim Loomis:** *Spatterdock and pickerelweed.*

## LAND CONSERVATION THROUGH PRIVATE ACTION

The Nature Conservancy is a member-governed organization, receiving its support from the public, and was incorporated in 1951 in the District of Columbia for non-profit educational and scientific purposes.

The Nature Conservancy's first land-saving effort was in 1954. This very successful endeavor was the forerunner of 740 projects totalling over 282,000 acres in which the Conservancy has since been involved.

The Nature Conservancy works closely not only with numerous educational, scientific, and conservation organizations but also with municipal, state, and federal governments.

**The Nature Conservancy is the organization rallying the skills, the techniques, and the funds actually necessary to save land. Its total resources are massed for this one objective.**

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

| SPECIAL | REGULAR | |
|---|---|---|
| $1,000 Patron * | $100 Guarantor | $15 Family |
| $1,000 Corporate | $50 Supporting | $10 Subscribing |
| $500 Sponsor * | $25 Contributing | $5 Junior (under 18) |

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP**
$300

Members receive the *News*.
* (Includes Life Membership with initial contribution)
Contributions to The Nature Conservancy are tax-deductible.

# NEW PROJECTS

Sam Sloan

**Arkansas**

LEATHERWOOD CREEK (Newtown County). A small north-flowing tributary of the Buffalo River, Leatherwood Creek lies in a 500-foot deep narrow canyon protected from drying winds, enabling a superb growth of rich flora. Amidst the hardwood forest are numerous large beech trees, rare in this region. The 695-acre purchased tract includes the entire creek watershed. (Fund-raising in progress.)

**California**

ELKHORN SLOUGH, Lillian Devendorf Hohfeld Preserve (Monterey County). The 105-acre purchase is the only undisturbed marsh remaining along 250 miles of California coast between Morro Bay and San Francisco. Hundreds of species of fish, shellfish, small mammals, shore and migrating birds gather to feed on the tiny organisms that thrive in the mud and grasses of the Slough. (Fund-raising in progress.)

**Connecticut**

ASPROOM MOUNTAIN PRESERVE—Addition —(Ridgefield). An additional 6 acres donated by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Trachtman enlarge the existing preserve of typical Connecticut upland woods to 18 acres.

MUSUMANO PROPERTY (Avon) 30 acres are forested with oak and ground pine. A clean, continuously flowing brook traverses the tract from north to south. The tract was purchased at the request of the town of Avon for ultimate transfer to the town pending availability of funds.

**Maine**

SIMONTON CORNER QUARRY (Knox County). The remains of an abandoned lime quarry undisturbed since the turn of the century, the 10½-acre site is fostering resurgence of biotic communities. The property was donated by the Rockland-Rockport Lime Company.

**Michigan**

NORTH SHORE DUNES—Hartger Addition—(Ottawa County). Donated by Mr. Harold V. Hartger, 11½ additional acres of Lake Michigan duneland demonstrates various dune features—low ridges, sand hills, cliffs, dune valleys, blowouts, and sedge pools. Oak and pine woodland and various sand dune flora grow on the preserve. North Shore Dunes now total 61½ acres.

**Minnesota**

CHIPPEWA PRAIRIE — Knutson Addition — (Chippewa County). The 66-acre purchase ex-

pands the preserve to 146 acres. The dry rocky mid-grass prairie with stands of big and little bluestem is on Lac Qui Parle of the Minnesota River. Chippewa Prairie is a unit of the Ordway Prairie System.

### Montana

BLACK-TAILED PRAIRIE DOG TOWN (Sweetgrass County). These 98 acres of flat meadow are habitat for the rare black-tailed prairie dog, *Cynomys ludovicianus*. The purchased area lies in what was once the floodplain of the Yellowstone River. (Fund-raising in progress.)

### New York

BUTLER SANCTUARY—Hopkins Addition—(Weschester County). A gift of Mr. and Mrs. David L. Hopkins, Jr., 4 acres of hardwoods and evergreens lie contiguous to the present Sanctuary, at the headwaters of the Kisco River. In an acquisition program begun in 1954, 331 acres have been assembled for the Sanctuary.

LITTLE RAM ISLAND WETLANDS RESERVE —Duckworth Addition—(Suffolk County). One acre of cobble-type beach and dune backed by a small salt marsh is a donation from Mr. and Mrs. Frank Duckworth. The preserve was formerly called Schonberg Salt Marsh.

LOVERING PRESERVE (Suffolk County). Located in Islip off Great South Bay, a 10-acre purchase consists of cattail marsh, swamp alder, cedar, and phragmites, with upland of white oak, birch, and catbrier. The site is frequented by great blue herons.

MIANUS RIVER GORGE—Additions—(Westchester County). Providing bufferage along the Mianus River, two additions of oak-beech-maple woods with scattered hemlock bring the Mianus River Gorge Preserve to 277 acres. Three acres are a gift of Mr. James Todd, and 8 acres were purchased. The program to save the Gorge has continued since 1954 and is the oldest active Conservancy project.

SANTANONI PRESERVE (Essex County). This Phase I acquisition in a long-range program to preserve private inholdings in the 6 million-acre Adirondack Park was undertaken jointly by The Nature Conservancy and Trout Unlimited. The Adirondack Conservancy Committee, a subgroup of the Eastern New York Chapter, is carrying out the Adirondacks Program. The 12,500-acre Santanoni Preserve provides habitat for bear, deer, beaver, and numerous smaller mammals. Newcomb Lake lies entirely within its boundaries and harbors genetically undisturbed strains of brook and lake trout; other bodies of water include Moose Pond and several creeks and brooks. New York's highest peak, Mt. Marcy (5,340 feet), rises north of the preserve. The property has been transferred to the State of New York with restrictive use clauses.

SCALLOP POND, James Augustus Hildreth Preserve (Suffolk County). A gift of Elizabeth H. Johnson and Mary H. Greenfield, 5 acres of classic New England salt marsh reflect a vegetative sequence from cord grass in the low inter-tidal zone to glasswort and sea lavender in the high marsh locales. Many feeding and nesting birds use the area, including clapper rail and great blue heron.

WELLBORN WOODS (Saratoga County). Bounded on the north by the Adirondack Park, 98 acres of gently rolling, heavily wooded land are crossed by Evans Brook, a year round stream. The preserve was donated by Mrs. Marguerite M. Wellborn.

### Ohio

NORTHSIDE WOODS (Hamilton County). Located within the Cincinnati city limits, the 21-acre purchase is a unique example of original mixed mesophytic forest. It is situated on two glacial terraces of Illinoian and Wisconsin ages and supports rich herbaceous flora. Scheduled for transfer to city of Cincinnati. (Fund-raising in progress.)

WILLIAM BENUA PRESERVE (Hocking County). The 12-acre preserve surrounds an interesting geologic feature known as Devil's Kitchen, a massive land slip on a heavily forested wall of Clear Creek. The Clear Creek valley harbors more evidences of climatic, geologic, and biotic history dating from preglacial times than any other single area in Ohio. The tract is a gift from Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Benua.

### Wisconsin

SUMPTER BLUFFS I, Edith Kindschi Forest Preserve (Sauk County) 10 acres of 15-foot high quartzite escarpment and red oak woodland are a gift of Dr. Donald Kindschi. The preserve also includes white oak, sugar maple, black cherry, spotted coral-root orchid, ginseng, and maiden hair fern.

SUMPTER BLUFFS II, Steidtmann Forest Preserve (Sauk County). The 40-acre purchase is covered with oak-hickory climax forest, along with red and white oak, aspen, and maple. Quartzite escarpment touches the northeast corner.

# FOUR HOLES SWAMP

*In the dim early morning light, ghoulish mists hang suspended over the blackwater's surface. Giant masses of dark cypress rise ominously and fade away skyward to heights not readily discernible. Only when the vapors lift does the way look less eerie. Then, with every paddlestroke, the canoe slips further into the swamp, further into a watery green-and-black lighted inner world far from the works of man, far, far into a place that would conjure all the swamp-lore ever written or imagined . . .*

BY ANNE WEBB

The largest and last surviving stand of virgin blackwater cypress lies in Four Holes Swamp, deep in the South Carolina low country. In 1969 this lush swamp wilderness was scheduled to be logged, but its plight was brought to the attention of The Nature Conservancy and the National Audubon Society. Working together, these two conservation organizations purchased 3,415 acres of Four Holes Swamp from the Francis Beidler Estate of Chicago for $1,450,000—the largest collaborative enterprise ever undertaken by these groups.

Although the Four Holes area is easily reached by car—it is located thirty-five miles northwest of Charleston and the Carolina seacoast, between Harleyville and Holly Hill—the swamp itself is best explored by canoe.

Gliding through the watery pathways, among the columnar trunks of cypress, across the shadows of the tall understory of tupelo, one can investigate the secrets of the swamp and quietly savor its wonders. In Four Holes the senses intertwine with the myriad elements of the swamp, and the imagination soars beyond the genius of nature.

What are the sounds and what are the sights of the swamp? The sounds may be the explosive grunt of a big bull alligator, or the trill of a grey tree frog; the tea-kettle whistle of a Carolina wren, or the slap-splash of a turtle slipping off a log. The sights may be a pair of wood ducks descending on cupped wings through the high dense canopy and the still green light onto the black liquid mirror of the water's surface, or an undulating white blanket of ibis feeding on crimson crayfish delicacies. Or it may be the vision of ferns in riotous profusion on tree trunks, on cypress knees, on floating logs, across moist black soil, clammering up marl bluffs.

The smell of the swamp might be the delicate scent of Spring's earliest blossoms (though something blooms in every season but Winter) —yellow butterweed spread across the forest floor, white Easter lilies, and dozens of other frail and damp vapors wafting all the way to the swamp's edge. The texture of the swamp is the interplay of moss and bark and shiny leaves—and the warm caress of an escaping sunbeam meant just for basking. There is the taste of the swamp, too—the sour shock of fallen tupelo fruit scooped from the cool October waters, or, a draught of the water itself, clean and pure, stained blackish-brown from the tannic acid of the cypress, with a flavor of weak tea.

But there is one element in the intricate fabric of the swamp that plays upon the senses above all

others—the cypress. Drifting gently in a canoe beneath the lofty canopy, one becomes quickly absorbed in the strange inner world the cypress creates.

Everywhere cypress knees protrude haphazardly above the water. There are whole forests of them, rising grotesquely in gnarled pyramidal shapes. Some grow so close together that one can step easily from one to another, and some stand as tall as men (if men could stand on water). They make weird natural sculptures—here a creature almost real, there another that never was but is the perfect denizen of the swamp's twilight. Scientists can only speculate on the real function of the cypress knees: whether they are buttresses supporting the huge-girthed ancient trees, or whether they are snorkles bringing air to submerged roots, or even whether they are appendages whose purpose is long lost in the evolutionary past.

The layman, also, can hardly resist speculating about the secrets of these towering trees, the eastern cousins of the giant redwoods and sequoias. The cypress may grow tall as ten-story buildings and more than 18 feet in circumference. One tends to attribute a certain undefined sagacity to these very old bald cypress, knowing they were among the first trees to inhabit the aboriginal swamps of the low country.

One wonders what cavalcade has passed during the 500 to 800 years that the cypress have been growing here. What birds—the Carolina parakeet, the passenger pigeon, and what others—now extinct, and what animals—the cougar, the black bear, and how many more—now long vanished from the swamp, sought shelter in the cypress, or in the spruce pine and tupelo below? What triumphs and tragedies of man have touched the swamp while these trees extended their needled branches skyward? While these grew strong, how many other cypress in other swamps fell to the axe, their fine soft wood which lasts nearly forever doomed to lie as shingles on countless southern farmhouse roofs, to stand as walls of barns, to float as canoes, or to sink to the water's bottom where its final measure of resistance is to fossilize rather than rot.

As the canoe slides silently on, slipping further still into the swamp, one feels isolated, a little lost, but awed and grateful to be so close to a world built by something other than man but with which man shares his origins. The mind can easily imagine a time when this place was an even stranger, newer wilderness, when the swamp was already of a venerable age, but when most men's acquaintance with it was young. One can almost see the ghosts of immigrants, Indians, and heroes, now long gone.

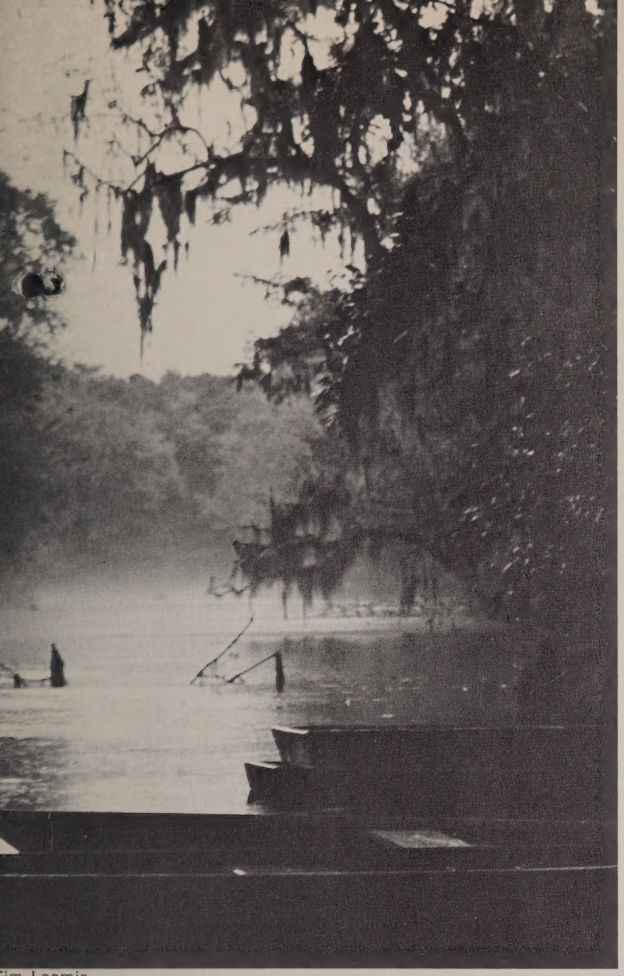
It is easy to understand why a colonial would have been a bit hesitant and uncertain traveling through the forest, on foot or by horse, trying to find one of the four passes (or four holes) through the swamp. No one knows whether it was these passes, which supposedly led a person through the swamp, or whether it was four springs or four deep places in the watercourse, that gave the swamp its name in those early settlement days.

There were Indians living in the swamp in those days. Probably the best known group was the band of Natchez who, exiled from their home on the lower Mississippi after a war with the French, were allowed by the colonial Carolina government to settle here in 1735. During the hundred years they lived in the swamp, it must have been extremely difficult for them to make a new life, for, even though the physical environment was relatively similar to the one they left, the mound-building culture of the Natchez, with its highly developed arts and sun worship rituals, was effectively destroyed.

Perhaps the most attractive ghost in Four Holes is Francis Marion, the intrepid American soldier of the Revolutionary War who gained the nickname "the Swamp Fox." He was born and raised near this swamp and knew well the vast cypress-tupelo forests that bordered the fresh water rivers in those days. When Charleston fell to the British, Marion slipped away to the swamp, carrying out orders to burn boats and harass the enemy. He trained a band of guerillas to ride and fight while living off the land, often defeating larger bodies of troops by surprise and rapidity of movement through the swamps. Considering what a splendid place for playing hide-and-seek Four Holes is, with its tree-columned chambers and glistening corridors, it is understandable why the dreaded British Colonel Tarleton said of Marion, "As for this damned old fox, the devil himself could not catch him."

One's curiosity seems to be endlessly tantalized the more one becomes familiar with not only the swamp's human but also natural history. Countless life stories can be discovered here. But, strange as it may seem, the habits and haunts of the majority of the swamp's creatures are unknown, for they are so secretive and so nocturnal that man is scarcely aware of their existence.

Even behind the names of the flora and fauna of Four Holes that are known, there are tales that beg to be told. What spell is in the devil's walking stick, in the passion flower, in the bloodroot? What magic power was supposedly possessed by the shadow witch orchid, the blue-eyed grass, the devil-wood, that they carry such titles? What evolutionary line or taxonomical tract is followed by the resurrection fern, the tiny-eyed groping rice-field



Tim Loomis

*Left, mist shrouded morning looking from Mallard Lake into the Swamp.*

Farley Smith, Jr.

*Above, a raccoon pauses on a fallen log.*
*Below, a fragrant water lily blooms.*

Farley Smith, Jr.

fish, the rare green-fly orchid? What is the message in the tappings of a pileated woodpecker or the eerie cries of a barred owl?

What further mysteries are manifest in the dark, slowly moving streams that wind through the mile-wide floodplain, joining, separating, and widening here and there into "lakes," all in their own appointed pattern? In these waters, below the surface, a special brew from the springs and the seepages of the marl formations on both sides of the swamp blend with the swamp's mildly acid waters in just such combination that certain ferns and plants grow and flourish. To understand the source of the water's movements and the chemicals of so precise a mixture, one must stretch the mind back, not centuries but eons, to the Pleistocene, the Miocene, and before. Then, the valley that contains Four Holes was an estuarine arm of the Atlantic, and the breaking waves and changing tides of the ancient ocean built sand bars and sculpted shorelines. Animals were alive and active then in the morning fogs of antiquity that are today treasured fossils or the composing elements of sedimentary rocks at Four Holes.

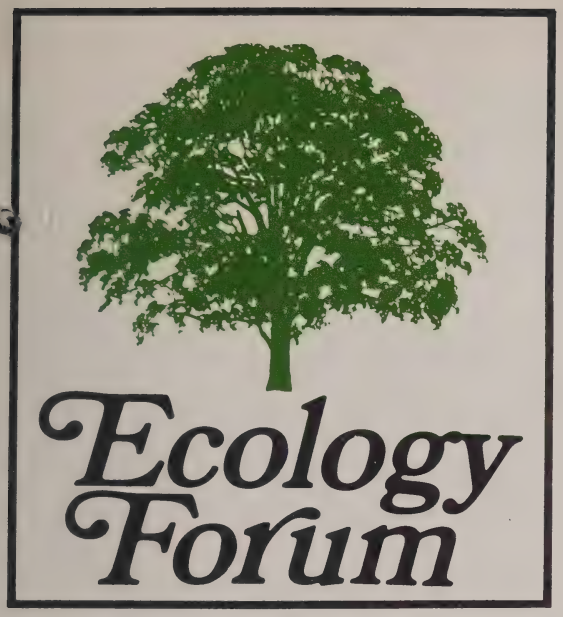
Thousands upon thousands of years passed as the system containing Four Holes Swamp was formed. Thousands upon thousands of plants and animals lived and died. Long years of wetness were followed by times of drought required by the giant cypress tree for reseeding. Slowly the forest grew. It was not the only blackwater cypress swamp created, but it is probably the last one that will ever survive in its pristine state.

One could indulge in the unhappy speculation of what the area might have been like if people had not cared for its fate and found a way to keep the swamp from the exploitation of commercial interests. If Four Holes Swamp had been lost, the reason would not have mattered. We would be left only with the terrible sadness that it could never in all time be exactly recreated.

Unfortunately, Four Holes Swamp is not yet secure. Money must still be raised to pay for the purchase of this ecosystem by the Conservancy and National Audubon. Perhaps, if enough people care for its fate, the swamp will remain a place where men and women can come to think, to enjoy, to study, and to dream. Secured, at last, there will then be enough time to learn if the swamp as it is now has reached its ultimate forest succession. There will be time and a place for man to come to understand in detail the role of such swamps in defending civilization against the terrors of flood and water pollution—to learn that, treated with respect, they are purifiers; that, abused, they can become the playground of plague. Finally, there may be "world enough and time" to preserve the sense of wonder for the present generations that they may be sustained in the work of saving the natural landscape and for the generations unborn that they might be involved with the unfettered earth.

*Tree-columned chambers and glistening corridors . . .*

W. F. Robey, Jr.




No. 3
by Robert E. Jenkins

# TNC CARES

The acronym stands for the Center for Applied Research in Environmental Sciences of The Nature Conservancy, a newly established branch of the science program. The Center represents an important experiment in implementing the environmental ideals of the organization. For many years our research activity has been mostly confined to a passive role in providing research opportunities for outside scientists on our great variety of natural areas. Though this continues to be a beneficial use of our preserves, we have continually sought ways to make such research directly significant to Conservancy programs and to questions of environmental quality.

Equal measures of opportunity and need contributed to the initiation, at long last, of this active internal research program. Dr. Edgar Garbisch, now the Director of the Center, visited the national offices to discuss his plans to do applied research on ecological systems for which initial funding was available. Our need for certain types of research of direct importance to ongoing activities; distress at the comparative knowledge vacuum in the fields of ecosystem health, management, and restoration; and a constellation of other factors preadapted the Conservancy to propose undertaking such a project as an expansion of its own programs. The Board of Governors reacted favorably to the proposal, and in short order, a station was established, facilities provided, the nucleus of a staff assembled, and an extremely significant initial project undertaken.

CARES' first project is an attempt to create salt marsh on previously unvegetated tidal flats in the Chesapeake Bay. Surprisingly, nothing quite like this has been attempted in the past, yet the practical utility of a successful result is tremendous. Salt marshes are known to be the most productive of all ecosystems and to play a vital role in the ecology of the entire ocean. They act as nursery or feeding grounds for the bulk of fin and shell fish where they occur, and even ocean species which never visit them depend on them through their food chains. Furthermore, salt marshes act to buffer shorelines against waves and currents and improve water quality by taking up nutrients, precipitating particulate matter, and incorporating other substances into the peaty substrates which build up beneath them.

Until recently, these values were largely unappreciated, with the result that coastal marshes have been extensively destroyed by dredging and filling, as much as 50% of the total having been destroyed in some Atlantic seaboard states in a single decade. Therefore, the development and implementation of techniques to create and restore these marshes would simultaneously rehabilitate damaged ecological systems and be of direct importance in abating shoreline erosion and improving water quality. In the course of the work, the Center's staff should also make many discoveries directly useful to the management of the Conservancy's own coastal preserves.

The Center is located in St. Michaels, Maryland, and presently consists of Hambleton Island, a forested series of islets near the shoreline, and a mainland site with offices, laboratories, a greenhouse, and other facilities. Except for the Island, which was purchased last year, these are presently being leased.

The working staff consists of four members, but it is expected that the effective research team will be augmented by scientists from other institutions who are interested in the project. Because of the importance and timeliness of this work, we are hopeful that graduate students and others from institutions in the Bay area will be induced to conduct their own research at the Center and thereby contribute to its success. Facilities are still being modified and improved, and activity is frenetic in preparation for the impending field season. Fill must be transported, temporary breakwaters installed, seedlings germinated, and preliminary tests and background research completed before the planting of vegetation can begin in the spring and summer. The experimental flat will be divided

*(—continued on page 22)*

# 1971:
# YEAR IN REVIEW

Sam Slo

The projects of 1971 speak for themselves. Each is a success for the Conservancy and proof that the uphill battles for land conservation *can* be won.

During 1971 The Nature Conservancy completed 142 projects comprising 42,171 acres of land. This accomplishment represents the conviction and dedication of many individuals—from the generous and farsighted people who donated land, to those who so willingly gave funds to make purchases of land possible, and to those who volunteered their time and energies to make the Conservancy's programs work.

The projects reviewed on the next few pages are a portfolio of our achievements for one year. Yet for each forest left to flourish, for each prairie flower left to bloom, for each animal left to live in its natural habitat in 1971, there is still a monumental task to be done. The coming year will witness how well we meet the challenge.

The Conservancy earnestly asks your support.

Each Spring, a review of the projects of the past year is published for the purpose of seeking support for the Conservancy's General Fund for the coming year. This annual appeal has previously been published and mailed separately. This year, however, we are including the review of 1971 in *The Nature Conservancy News* in an effort at greater efficiency as well as a substantial saving in cost. The purpose remains the same.

Your generous contribution to the General Fund will help enable The Nature Conservancy to continue to save ecologically and environmentally critical lands.

It will mean another marsh, another prairie, another mountain, another swamp, or forest, or island, or river, or beach . . . for generations yet to come.

## CALIFORNIA

BUNNY AND HELEN'S WOODS, Addition, Marin Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Edwin I. Power, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Power, Mr. & Mrs. Everett E. Fairchild) 43 acres near Point Reyes National Seashore expand preserve of bay laurel and bishop pine.

EWING PRESERVE, Addition, San Diego Co. (Gift of Mr. Karl Weber) 4-acre canyonland with chaparral enlarges Alice Ewing Preserve to 23 acres.

HI MOUNTAIN CONDOR SANCTUARY, San Luis Obispo Co. 162 acres. See page 15.

HOLMWOOD, Placer Co. 733 acres in Lake Tahoe Valley include trout spawning stream, ponderosa pine, and lush undergrowth sustained by springs. Transferred to U.S. Forest Service.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COAST RANGE PRESERVE, Barnes Addition, Mendocino Co. 40 acres fronting Eel River adjoin present preserve entrance.*

OASIS DE LOS OSOS, Riverside Co. Rocky desert canyon with verdantly rich bottomland and year round stream. 160 acres.

POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE, Addition, Marin Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Edwin I. Power, Jr.) 3 acres, conveyed to National Park Service.

POWER PROPERTY, Solano Co. (Gift of Mrs. Helen H. Power) 10-acre grassy hilltop; first acquisition for city of Vacaville.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY PROJECT, Additions:
—CROWLEY TIDELANDS, Marin Co. (Gift of Mr. Thomas Crowley) Key 6-acre parcel in checkerboarding plan for Bay.
—KNAPP SOUTH BAY SALT MARSH, Santa Clara Co. (Gift of Mr. J. Gordon Knapp, Mr. William Knapp) Additional undivided interest in 457-acre marshland with freshwater pond. Resting and feeding ground for waterfowl, shorebirds, harbor seals.

VOLLMER PROPERTY, Napa Co. (Gift of Mrs. Beulah F. Vollmer). Rugged habitat covered with oak and dense chaparral; 158 acres, frequented by birds, small animals, deer.

WILLIAMS SISTERS RANCH, San Mateo Co. (Gift of Miss Elizabeth Williams) One-half undivided interest in 1,090 acres of rolling foothills, meadows, groves, and springs.

## CONNECTICUT

ASPROOM MOUNTAIN PRESERVE, Ridgefield (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Trachtman) 7 acres of typical Connecticut upland woods; habitat for fox and deer.

CHAUNCEY KEEP HUBBARD PRESERVE—DELACORTE PROPERTY—Greenwich (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. George T. Delacorte) Red maple swamp between rock ridges, bounded by large brook. 8 acres.

CHESTER BOWLES PRESERVE, Essex (Gift of Mrs. Dorothy S. Bowles) First undivided fractional interest in 99 acres of woodland and tidal marsh on Connecticut River.

DUCK POND HILL, Addition, Greenwich (Gift of Mrs. Audrey S. Hess) 2 acres of white oak overlook waterfowl refuge on Duck Pond.

GRASSY ISLAND, Westport. The Conservancy assisted City of Norwalk in purchase of 3-acre woodland, marsh, and tidal flats in Long Island Sound.

GRISWOLD MARSH, Old Lyme (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. William E. S. Griswold, Jr.) Two-thirds undivided interest in 18 acres of salt marsh and open field along Duck River.

LAKE LILLINONAH PRESERVE, Bridgewater. Wooded tract above Lake Lillinonah in Housatonic River basin. 32 acres.

MILO LIGHT NATURE PRESERVE, Montville (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. William Alquist) 338-acre avifaunal area with highbush blueberry swamp and forest of red, black, and white oak, cherry, ash, black birch, and hickory.

STILL POND, Addition, Greenwich (Gift of Mrs. Priscilla M. Meek) 3 acres of typical northern hardwoods, three streams, pond, and swamp.

THOMAS FLETCHER OAKES PRESERVE, Avon (Gift of Mrs. Elinor R. Oakes) Hardwood forest predominated by white oak on 3 acres of sloping land.

## FLORIDA

CUMMER SANCTUARY OF THE SUWANNEE RIVER, Levy Co. (Gift of Cummer Company, Jacksonville) 985 acres. See page 15.

DUSKY SEASIDE SPARROW, Addition, Brevard Co. 10 additional acres of habitat for endangered dusky seaside sparrow. Transferred to Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife.

FUCHS HAMMOCK, Addition, Dade Co. 5 acres expand preserve of tropical hardwood forest of mainly West Indian species, where bromeliads, orchids, and rare mosses and ferns flourish.*

GULF HAMMOCK, Levy Co. 26,500 acres. See page 17.

LIGNUMVITAE KEY, Monroe Co. 345 acres. Includes Shell Key, 200 acres. See page 21.

ROOKERY BAY, Collier Co.:
—Addition (Gift of Marco Island Development Corporation). 10-acre shoreline fringe with red and black mangrove.
—Shell Island Addition. Key 33-acre feeding area for wading birds and site of historic Indian shell mound.

SANIBEL ISLAND, Bancroft Addition, Lee Co. 21 acres of slough with saw grass prairie and tropical hardwood hammock communities.*

Sam Sloan

## HI MOUNTAIN CONDOR SANCTUARY

The largest of all North American land birds, with a wingspan of 8½-9 feet, the California condor has been shot, poisoned, robbed of its eggs, robbed of its habitat, and consequently brought to the brink of extinction. Only 40 to 60 individuals are known to survive, mostly in a remote portion of California's Los Padres National Forest along the Pacific Coast Range north of Los Angeles. To help protect this endangered bird, The Nature Conservancy purchased a 162-acre private inholding in that part of the Los Padres Forest maintained exclusively as condor habitat, 15 miles east of San Luis Obispo in the Santa Lucia Mountains. Potential exploitation of this key tract would have threatened an important condor nesting site nearby. The preserve has been transferred to the U.S. Forest Service.

## CUMMER SANCTUARY OF THE SUWANNEE RIVER

Along the lower Suwannee River in Levy County, Florida, 985 acres of bottomland hardwood forest were donated to The Nature Conservancy by the Cummer Company of Jacksonville, which had selected the Conservancy as the best management organization and recipient for its land. The preserve's clean flowing waters and heavy forests of cypress, tupelo, and sweetgum provide habitat for an abundance of wildlife, including bass and sunfish, wild hog and turkey, songbirds and wintering ducks, many herpetological specimens, some black bear, and perhaps Florida panther. The Suwannee basin also hosts the endangered American alligator, southern bald eagle, and Florida manatee. The Cummer Company gift constitutes the beginning of a long-range program to preserve major reaches of the Suwannee as it flows from Okefenokee Swamp in Georgia to the Gulf of Mexico.

SWEETBAY SWAMP, Leon Co. 6-acre swamp in city of Tallahassee; habitat for over 70 species of birds.*

TIGER CREEK, Polk Co. Wild, fast-flowing Tiger Creek, cutting through part of 580-acre preserve, is surrounded by hardwood forest of magnolia, oak, and gum. Remainder of preserve is high sandy open pine-scrub oak habitat with palmetto understory.*

WALK-IN-THE-WATER CREEK, Polk Co. (Gift of Dr. & Mrs. Bruce Newell) Two tracts, 4 acres and 5 acres, on Weohyakapka Creek, contain pine, hardwood, and palm forest with bromeliads, spanish moss, and orchids.

WEST SHORE CONSERVATION, Addition, Martin Co. (Gift of Captain & Mrs. H. P. J. Duberg) 12½ acres of red mangrove provide nesting cover for herons and egrets. Bald eagle, osprey, green loggerhead turtle, and manatee are occasional visitors.

## HAWAII

KIPAHULU VALLEY, Phase II, Island of Maui. 349 acres. See page 19.

## ILLINOIS

BIG BEND/VERMILION RIVER, Addition, La Salle Co. Acquired by court-order at dissolution of La Salle County Conservation District, 85 acres expand preserve to 263 acres.

DONSBACH PRESERVE, Jasper Co. 60 additional acres of habitat for threatened prairie grouse.*

GENSBURG-MARKHAM PRAIRIE, Cook Co. (Gift of Messrs. David, Louis, & Myer Gensburg) 60 acres on Chicago glacial lake plain are cut by sandy beach, accounting for unusual coexistence of black and sandy soil prairie vegetation. Probably the last significant remnant of prairie on which Chicago was built.*

LACEY SANCTUARY, Prairie Grouse Preserve System, Addition, Marion Co. 40 acres of booming, nesting, and broodrearing cover for threatened prairie chicken.

## INDIANA

MORAINE PRESERVE, Additions, Porter Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. John R. Womer, Mr. & Mrs. N. E. Hopkins) 13½ acres and 19 acres bring the existing preserve of swampland and beech forest to 192½ acres.

## KANSAS

KONZA PRAIRIE, Geary and Riley Cos. Excellent 916-acre virgin tall grass prairie is one of few such remaining areas in State. To be used by Kansas State University for research. Unit in Ordway Prairie System.

## MAINE

AUGUSTA NATURE CLUB AREA, Addition, Kennebec Co. 1 acre of woodland, conveyed to Augusta Nature Club.

DOUGHTY POINT, Cumberland Co. (Gift of Dr. & Mrs. Donald Macomber) One-half undivided interest in 20 acres of salt marsh and woodland.

DOUGLAS MOUNTAIN, Sebago Co. Outstanding views of White Mountains of New Hampshire and Lake Sebago region provided from 150-acre forested preserve.*

FALMOUTH FORESIDE PRESERVE, Cumberland Co. 34 acres of woodland, bounded by Mill Creek. Transferred to Town of Falmouth.

## MARYLAND

CLAGETT ISLAND, Montgomery Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. G. C. Davis) In Potomac River upstream from Washington, D.C., 30-acre island provides habitat for duck, geese, and small mammals.

FINZEL SWAMP, Additions, Allegany and Garrett Cos. Four tracts, 50, 46, 9, and 6 acres, enlarge preserve to 249 acres. Spring-fed wetland is one of southernmost stations of tamarack in U.S. Used for study by Frostburg State College.

HAMBLETON ISLAND, Talbot Co. Densely forested, 26 acres comprising three islands and mainland tract serve as waterfowl feeding area and experiment site for CARES program. Located south of St. Michaels in Chesapeake Bay.*

## MASSACHUSETTS

KING'S MARSH, Nantucket Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Timothy King) 10 forested acres sloping down to marsh near Nantucket Harbor on Nantucket Island. Transferred to Nantucket Conservation Foundation.

ROBINSON-GILMORE PRESERVE, Plymouth Co. (Gift of Miss Caroline R. Gilmore) Marsh, hemlock knolls, and glacial depressions, dominated by holly and Indian pipes. 15 acres, bordering two ponds.

## MICHIGAN

GRASS RIVER, Antrim Co. 62-acre habitat of grass sedge marsh and balsam fir/white cedar swamp between Lake Bellaire and Grass River.*

NORTH SHORE DUNES PRESERVE, Ottawa Co. (Gift of Mr. Gerald E. Lindquist) 50 acres of windswept duneland along shores of Lake Michigan.

## MINNESOTA

CHIPPEWA PRAIRIE, Swift and Chippewa Cos. 80 acres of dry rocky mid-grass prairie with stands of big and little bluestem on Lac Qui Parle of the Minnesota River. Unit in Ordway Prairie System.

Sam Sloan

## GULF HAMMOCK

One of the largest and most significant untouched salt marsh estuary systems in the state of Florida is the 26,500-acre Gulf Hammock preserve. Located at the mouth of the Waccasassa River, the area in Levy County stretches along Waccasassa Bay for twenty miles, from Cedar Key National Wildlife Refuge to Yankeetown. After two years of negotiations, the *Spartina* and *Juncus* marsh with its numerous hammocks was saved by the cooperative efforts of the Conservancy, a government agency, and a large resource-based industry. Through Conservancy coordination, the Georgia-Pacific Corporation, which owned the land, donated 7,000 acres to the State of Florida and the State purchased an adjoining 19,500 acres after the assignment of the Conservancy's option.

## ORDWAY PRAIRIE PRESERVE SYSTEM

The American prairie has been one of the most severely damaged natural communities in the country. In efforts to preserve as much as possible of what remnants remain of this dynamic and hardy ecosystem, The Nature Conservancy at the close of 1971 had protected nearly four dozen areas and stepped to the fore as the primary prairie preservation group in the nation.

Of outstanding significance in 1971 is the creation of the Ordway Prairie Preserve System which during the year added nearly 2,000 acres of virgin prairie and six new sanctuaries to the Conservancy's list of grassland habitats saved. With funds to purchase these areas generously made available by Miss Katharine Ordway, the following prairies, each named for an Indian tribe, are the first units in a planned larger System:

Konza Prairie, Kansas
Pawnee Prairie, Nebraska
Sioux Prairie, South Dakota
Chippewa Prairie, Minnesota
Santee Prairie, Minnesota
Wahpeton Prairie, Minnesota

(See individual descriptions under respective state listings.)

FERNDALE MARSH, Hennepin Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. John B. Fansler, Mr. & Mrs. Goodrich Lowry, Mr. Henry M. Skarp, Mr. & Mrs. Stephen F. Keating, Mr. & Mrs. John Pillsbury, Mr. & Mrs. Glen M. Dye). A cooperative effort of several property owners to preserve the *Carex-Typha* marsh bordering Lake Minnetonka. 30 acres total.

JEAN LUNDBERG TEETER MEMORIAL, Queen's Bluff, Winona Co. 20 acres of prairie-forest transition zone along highest point on Mississippi River.

MARGARET G. TUSLER SANCTUARY, Hennepin Co. (Gift of William H. & Harriet G. Tusler) 23-acre bog at Hardscrabble Point above Lake Minnetonka.

MOE WOODS, Pope and Kandiyohi Cos. Basswood-elm-ironwood association with oak, black cherry, and ash. 100 acres, including marshland.*

SANTEE PRAIRIE, Mahnomen Co. 448-acre wet prairie dotted with potholes critical for waterfowl breeding. Habitat for prairie chickens, marsh hawks, and whitetail deer. Unit in Ordway Prairie System.

STRANDNESS PRAIRIE, Pope Co. 40-acre virgin prairie near Lake Victoria is waterfowl nesting site.

WAHPETON PRAIRIE, Redwood Co. Upland prairie of *Andropogon, Sorghastrum,* and *Stipa* slopes down to *Spartina* and sedges along Cottonwood River. 80 acres. Unit in Ordway Prairie System.

## MISSOURI

ST. LOUIS ARBORETUM, Franklin Co. Assist to Missouri Botanical Gardens in acquisition of 198 acres of cottonwood, willow, and oak-hickory forest. View of Ordovician rock ledges.

## MONTANA

LUBRECHT EXPERIMENTAL FOREST, Martin Co. Two forested mountain inholdings of 331 acres and 401 acres in University of Montana's 30,000-acre Experimental Forest will be used as lab and classroom by School of Forestry.*

## NEBRASKA

PAWNEE PRAIRIE, Pawnee Co. Habitat for flock of greater prairie chickens rare to area. 320 acres. Unit in Ordway Prairie System. Leased to State of Nebraska.

## NEW JERSEY

PORICY PARK, Monmouth Co. 15 acres of woods and wetland rescued from development. Transferred to town of Middletown.

## NEW YORK

ACCABONAC HARBOR, Additions, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mr. Samuel A. Duncan, Mrs. Lenore Pollock) Two 1-acre tracts carry on efforts to preserve shore, marsh, and wooded habitats surrounding Harbor.

ARTHUR KETCHUM SANCTUARY, Westchester Co. (Gift of Mrs. Kerr Rainsford) Hemlock forest fronting Beaver Dam River and oak-beech-maple upland. 26 acres.

ATLANTIC DOUBLE DUNES, Additions, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mr. Dickson B. Potter) Sandy exposed beach with primary and secondary dune transition. Two 1-acre tracts.

AMAGANSETT DUNES, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Ruth Burdett Herrick) 4 acres of beach and dune. Vegetative zones support beach grass, sea rocket, dusty miller, beach plum, and bayberry.

BARBERVILLE FALLS, Addition, Rensselaer Co. (Gift of Mr. William H. Hayner, Mr. John W. Conlen, Ms. Lillian M. Jordan) 5¼ acres of steep wooded slopes of hemlock and mixed hardwoods. Preserve features 110-foot waterfall on Poestenkill Creek.

BERTHA AND REGINALD ROSE WILDLIFE REFUGE, Nassau Co. (Gift of Mr. Reginald P. Rose) 15 acres of persimmon and hardwoods with laurel, arbutus, and moccasin flower.

BONTICOU CONSERVANCY, Addition, Ulster Co. Hemlock forest featuring ice caves. "Table rocks" area offers spectacular views of Mohonk, Minnewaska, Rondout Valley, and Catskills. 108½ acres.

BUTLER SANCTUARY, Westchester Co.:
—Addition (Gift of Miss Anne Hyde Patterson) 5 acres of low wooded swale, small creek, rock ledge, native hardwoods and evergreens.
—Ross Addition. 3-acre parcel surrounded by existing Sanctuary.

BUTTERNUT BROOK WETLANDS, Washington Co. (Gift of Mr. Alton C. Warner) 3 acres of wetland formed by convergence of Lake George and Butternut Brook.

EDWARDS ISLAND, Suffolk Co. In Accabonac Harbor, 14-acre island of marsh and wooded upland in important fish breeding and avifaunal area.*

ELDRIDGE WILDERNESS, Tompkins Co. (Gift of Dr. Frank L. Eldridge) High ridge, woodland, open fields, streams with small waterfalls. 87 acres.

EMANUEL AND FRANCES FREUND WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, Columbia Co. (Gift of Dr. & Mrs. Emanuel Freund) 61 acres of swamp and upland, forested with white pine, red, white, and chestnut oak, black cherry, and flowering dogwood.

EMMONS POND, Delaware Co. Open quaking sphagnum bog, spring-fed pond, woods, steep falls flowing into Susquehanna River. 150 acres.*

FOX POINT WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. H. Stanley Krusen) 19 densely wooded acres include fringing salt marsh and small

Tom Sennett

## MENDON PEAK

In the midst of the Green Mountains of Vermont, where Mendon Peak and Little Killington rise 3,840 feet and 3,939 feet, a secluded and spectacularly scenic 3,100-acre tract was acquired by the Conservancy through a gift/purchase. The mountain wilderness is located seven miles east of Rutland, and the Appalachian Trail passes close to its eastern border. Forested with hardwoods, with spruce and fir at higher elevations, the preserve is a refuge for bear, deer, and other wildlife. Two watersheds drain north and south into two separate streams, Eddy Brook and Cold River. The tract has been transferred to the State of Vermont's Agency of Environmental Conservation.

## WALDRON ISLAND

The Waldron Island preserve grew during 1971 with the purchase of two new tracts, 40 acres and 18 acres. A continuing acquisition program has now been successful in setting aside 68 acres of this area of white sand beach, marshes, lakes, and evergreen and hardwood forest which attracts seals, otters, bald eagles, and innumerable shore and sea birds. Fundraising is still in progress for this magnificent area among the San Juan Islands of Puget Sound, Washington.

## KIPAHULU VALLEY

On Hawaii's island of Maui, four protective buffer areas totaling 349 acres were added along the southwestern border of Kipahulu Valley in Haleakala National Park. Kipahulu Valley, comprising 4,325 acres, was acquired by The Nature Conservancy in 1968 and was subsequently given to the National Park Service for inclusion in the Haleakala Park. The lush vast valley of waterfalls, pools, and virgin tropical rain forest stretches from the Pacific seacoast inland eight miles, up 7,000 feet to Haleakala volcano. Kipahulu is the site of the rediscovery in 1967 of the nukupuu, a native honeycreeper thought to be extinct for 70 years. The area is one of the last remaining wilderness places in Hawaii.

kettle-hole bogs, on Congdons Creek.

HEMLOCK BROOK PRESERVE, Westchester Co. (Gift of Mr. Walter P. Lewisohn) 14 acres cut with deep hemlock ravine; oak, maple, and beech forest.

KENROSE SANCTUARY, Albany Co. (Gift of Mrs. David P. Ayars III, Mr. George Hoar, Miss Dorothy McAlpin, Mrs. Margaret McAlpin) On Hamilton Escarpment, 300 acres contain two streams, fields, forest of hemlock, sugar maple, beech, red and white oak.

LONG POND, Addition, Westchester Co. 12½ acres of hemlock and hardwood forest and meadow at end of Lake Waccabuc.*

LORDSLAND, Otsego Co. (Gift of Mrs. Louise P. Moore) 78-acre waterfowl area; woodland with rock outcrops overlooking alder swamp and stream.

MADDEN FARM, Putnam Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. John C. Madden) 90 acres of marsh, springs, streams, fields, and woodland; large rock outcroppings. Transferred to Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Putnam and Westchester Counties with restrictive use provisions.

MARION YARROW NATURE RESERVE, Westchester Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Wilson P. Foss) 22 acres of hardwoods, marsh, brooks, and small pond.

MIANUS RIVER GORGE PRESERVE, Additions, Westchester Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Norris Darrell, Mrs. Dorothy B. Hubbell, Mr. James Todd, Jr.) Oldest active Conservancy project. Combined addition of 7 more acres to Gorge of mature hemlock and hardwood forest. Preserve now totals 266 acres.

RICHARD P. MOMSEN MEMORIAL WETLANDS, Westchester Co. (Gift of Mrs. Richard P. Momsen) Red maple swamp with blueberry meadow; 44 acres. Conveyed to Town of Lewisboro.

SCHONBERG SALT MARSH, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Harold Schonberg) 2½ acres on Little Ram Island (Shelter Island), Coecles Harbor, include upland and salt marsh.

SCHWARTZ PRESERVE, Westchester Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Schwartz) 8 acres include island and mainland; on Lake Kitchawan.

TURTLE COVE NATURE RESERVE, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Miss Elsa Barnouw) 1-acre cove surrounded by salt marsh, includes small upland island.

UPLANDS FARM, Addition, Suffolk Co. 7 acres of mixed hardwoods and meadows overlooking Cold Spring Harbor.*

WHITBECK MEMORIAL GROVE, Albany Co. Hemlock, white pine, white birch, oak, aspen, sumac, and dogwood; 26 acres near New Scotland.

## NORTH CAROLINA

COMAN PROPERTY, Orange Co. 267 acres south of Eno River contain grassland, ponds, hardwood and pine forest. Purchased at request of State, to whom it is scheduled for transfer pending availability of funds.

## OHIO

EAGLE CREEK NATURE PRESERVE, Portage Co. Woodland surrounded by buttonbush swamp and sphagnum bog, includes beaver pond. 278 acres.

RED MILL VALLEY, Addition, Lake Co. (Gift of Mr. George W. Hurlburt) 5 acres added to preserve of open water, sphagnum swamp, and woodland.

RED ROCK/BUZZARDROOST ROCK, Additions, Adams. Co. 154 acres. See page 21.

WARREN WELLS PRESERVE, Hamilton Co. Wisconsin Glacial till soil supports beech, maple, and pine forest and streams. 33 acres, frequented by red-tailed and red-shouldered hawks and barred and great horned owls.*

WILDERNESS (CHARLES A. EULETT PRESERVE), Additions, Adams Co. Anonymous donation of 23 acres of mixed mesophytic forest with scatterings of dry prairie. Also, purchase of 32 acres of wooded ridge above Ohio Brush Creek.

## SOUTH DAKOTA

SIOUX PRAIRIE, Moody Co. 80 acres of tall grass prairie, including seasonal wetlands, dry uplands, and several buffalo rubbing rocks and wallows. Unit in Ordway Prairie System.

## TEXAS

HOOKS-REID BOG, Tyler Co. 8½-acre bog in Big Thicket of East Texas, supports orchids, insectivorous plants, and luxuriant ferns.

## VERMONT

BARR HILL NATURE PRESERVE, Greensboro Co. (Gift of Mr. Philip H. Gray) Spectacular views of Caspian Lake and Green Mountains afforded from 256-acre tract of northern white cedar, spruce, and fir. Includes swamp and fields.

MENDON PEAK, Rutland Co. 3,100 acres. See page 19.

## VIRGINIA

DAVIS TRACT, Fairfax Co. 49 acres of woodland include ⅓ mile of Potomac River shoreline above Washington, D.C. Purchased on behalf of Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority pending appropriation of funds.

MASON NECK, Addition, Fairfax Co. Purchased on behalf of State, 240 acres of dense oak and pine woods front Belmont Bay two miles below Washington, D.C. Area preserved at Mason Neck, south of Mt. Vernon on Potomac River, now totals 3,109 acres.

### WASHINGTON

WALDRON ISLAND, Additions, San Juan Co. 58 acres. See page 19.

### WISCONSIN

BAXTER'S HOLLOW, Gruber Woods and Moely Woods Additions, Sauk Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Christian Gruber, Dr. Donald R. Kindschi) Two 20-acre tracts of red and white oak and sugar maple.

GASSER SAND BARREN, Sauk Co. (Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Lowell Wilhelm, Mr. Jerome Wilhelm, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Gasser) 3 acres of sparta sand covered with *Hudsonia* and herbaceous vegetation.

### BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

FALLEN JERUSALEM. 52-acre island of granite boulders lies southwest of Virgin Gorda. The Conservancy assisted the British Virgin Island government, which conveyed the land to the British Virgin Island National Park Trust.

WEST DOG. 31-acre island to be bird sanctuary among Dog Islands. Assist to British Virgin Island government. Conveyed to British Virgin Island National Park Trust.

### U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

BATTERY GUT, St. John. (Gift of Dr. Shailer L. Bass, Mr. Carl H. Gerstacher, Mr. H. D. Doan, Mr. C. Benson Branch) 11-acre "gut" or gorge forested with tamarind, mahogany, turpentine, shower of gold, mango, flamboyant, and machineel. Near U.S.V.I. National Park.

BUGBY HOLE, St. Croix. (Gift of Mr. Sam Pivar) 6 acres covered with brush and tropical fruit trees including West Indian cherry, genippe, and sour-sop.

LITTLE ST. THOMAS, St. Thomas. (Gift of Mr. Warren H. Corning) On Botany Bay, 16 acres in two tracts; beach, rocky outcrops, coral ledges.

TRITON BAY ROOKERY, St. Croix. (Gift of Mr. John B. Faile) 10 acres of red and black mangrove swamp on Salt River Estuary; for bird sanctuary.

**** FUND-RAISING IN PROGRESS.***

## RED ROCK/ BUZZARDROOST ROCK

On the wooded ridges overlooking Ohio Brush Creek in Adams County, Ohio, Red Rock (The Earl F. Farnau Preserve) and Buzzardroost Rock (The Christian and Emma Goetz Preserve) are now expanded and lie contiguous to each other. During the year four new additions brought the preserves to 83 acres and 261 acres, respectively. To Red Rock's coral-colored cliffs and mixed mesophytic forest, two purchases of 45 acres and 20 acres were added, while Buzzardroost Rock with its 500-foot promontory also surrounded by mixed mesophytic forest acquired two purchases of 49 acres and 40 acres. The Ohio Chapter is seeking funds for this continuing acquisition program.

## LIGNUMVITAE KEY

The least disturbed of the Florida Keys, Lignumvitae supports a remarkable blend of tropical and temperate species of flora and fauna endemic to the Keys. When the island's unique scientific value was threatened with the construction of a high-rise motel, The Nature Conservancy secured an option to purchase both 345-acre Lignumvitae and 200-acre Shell Key nearby for $1,950,000 after almost a year of negotiation. While the Conservancy raised $200,000, the remaining funds were provided by the State of Florida's Department of Natural Resources who subsequently purchased the islands. A consortium of universities with representatives from Cornell, Harvard, and the University of Miami was set up to supervise the preserve.

### Project Revolving Fund Progress Report

The Conservancy's Project Revolving Fund now totals $2,462,600. Each donation to the Fund is increased 25% by the Ford Foundation challenge grant. The progress of the Fund toward the $4,000,000 goal will be reported in each issue of the *News*.

### Address Changes . . .

Please notify the Membership Department of the National Office of your new address immediately if you move. The Post Office does not forward third class mail and we would like to insure that your receipt of the *News* is not interrupted. Thank you.

*(ECOLOGY FORUM, continued—)*

There is little doubt that a marsh will be successfully created. The big tests will be whether it can maintain itself against storms and wave action after the breakwaters are removed and whether it can resist the destructive effects of winter ice and other vicissitudes to which it will be exposed. By-products of the main research will include development of intrinsically useful techniques for cultivating, transplanting, and establishing aquatic plants.

In addition to the salt marsh project itself, the professional staff will augment the overall scientific capabilities of the Conservancy and will increasingly contribute their efforts to the examination of internal programmatic problems in the areas of identification, establishment, and management of natural area preserves.

Future opportunities for effecting environmental benefits through the activities of the Center are endless. Half the world is crying out for ways to maintain and enhance environmental quality, and too much of the response has been narrowly focused on short-range cost-benefit considerations. Attempts at environmental management have been closely tied to economic endeavors like agriculture, forestry, and wildlife management. In these fields, terms like reforestation, reclamation, soil conservation, and watershed management employ concepts of ecosystem simplification, alteration, and homogenization which are ecologically destructive in themselves. The pervasive drive has been for efficiency, and little attention has been given to the value of maintaining biological diversity with its positive effects on stability and ecological integrity. Now at last there are some signs that this may change.

Environmental enlightenment is spreading, and subjects like landscape diversification, ecological management, environmental baselines, and even wilderness restoration are being discussed. No organization has a greater potential for contributing to this environmental improvement movement than The Nature Conservancy, and nothing could be more appropriate to the attempt than the Center for Applied Research. Salt marshes are only the beginning.

# NOTES

## 1972 Annual Meeting Scheduled for Mohonk

The 1972 Annual Meeting and Conference of The Nature Conservancy is now scheduled for Mohonk Mountain House near New Paltz, New York, on October 20-21. Host for the meeting is the extremely successful Eastern New York Chapter.

Detailed information concerning accommodations at Mohonk as well as alternate lodgings in the area and registration procedures will be published in the next issue of the *News*.

Mohonk Mountain House is owned and operated by the Smiley family, long-time members of the Conservancy. This year's conference, both in setting and content, promises to be one of the best in recent years. Please plan to attend.

## Resignation of Thomas W. Richards

The resignation of Thomas W. Richards as president of The Nature Conservancy was accepted by the Board of Governors on March 18, 1972, with regret.

In making the announcement, Warren M. Lemmon, Chairman of the Board, expressed the Board's appreciation to Mr. Richards for his five years of leadership during a period of rapid growth for the Conservancy in its effectiveness, importance, and stability.

Until a new president is designated, Mr. Lemmon will serve as both Acting President and Board Chairman. A committee of the Board of Governors has been established to seek a new president.

## First Statewide Meeting of New York Chapters

The first statewide meeting of The Nature Conservancy's New York Chapters was convened on January 29, 1972, at Union College, Schenectady, New York.

Representatives from the Western, Central, and Eastern New York, and Long Island Chapters, the Adirondacks Conservancy Committee, and the Eastern Regional Office met to discuss mutual problems and solutions on topics of criteria for selection of lands for preservation, planning and implementation of preserve management programs, relationships to state and local government agencies, public relations, fund-raising methods, membership drives, and the roles of Chapters and Project Committees.

The meeting concluded with a resolution that New York State Chapters meet annually from henceforth to exchange experiences and to plan coordinated activities.

# CHALLENGE 1972

Sam Sloan

**In 1972 the challenge comes again:**

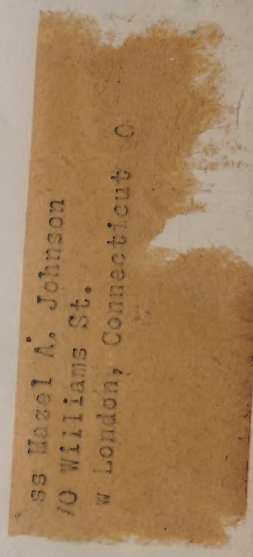
**Will natural habitats and wildlife survive the growing pressures of man?**

**What we do in 1972 will be part of the answer.**

**Help the Conservancy meet the challenge.**

**This Spring please give generously to the General Fund.**

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
**PAID**
PERMIT NO. 9388
WASHINGTON, D. C.




THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

**National Office**

1800 North Kent Street
Arlington, Virginia 22209
(703) 524-3151

**LAND CONSERVATION THROUGH PRIVATE ACTION**

**Western Regional Office**
215 Market Street
San Francisco, California 94105
(415) 989-3056

**Midwest Regional Office**
329 West 15th Street
Park Terrace Building
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403
(612) 332-2060

**Eastern Regional Office**
1800 North Kent Street
Arlington, Virginia 22209
(703) 524-3151

**Mid-America/Gulf Regional Office**
260 Ludlow Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220
(513) 961-0725